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'Registering Solar Radiometer and Sunshine Recorder:' By G. S. ISHAM. 'Tertiary Elevated Limestone Reefs of Fiji:' By A. AGASSIZ. 'Iodometric Determination of Molybdenum:' By F. A. GOOCH and J. T. NORTON, JR. 'Sölvbergite and Tinguaita from Essex County, Mass.:' By H. S. WASHINGTON. 'Occurrence of Native Lead with Roebbingite, Native Copper and other Minerals at Franklin Furnace, N. J.:' By W. M. FOOTE. 'Position of Helium, Argon and Krypton in the Scheme of Elements:' By W. CROOKES.

THE *American Naturalist* for July opens with the first part of an article by Mr. C. R. Eastman on the 'Dentition of Devonian Ptyctodontidæ.' Mr. Outram Bangs contributes a list of the mammals of Labrador supplementary to that prepared by Mr. A. P. Low. There are short articles on variations in the number of ray-flowers in the White Daisy by Mr. F. C. Lucas and on the development of Mantis by Mr. T. D. A. Cockerell.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

##### ENGELMANN BOTANICAL CLUB.

THE Club met July 14th, ten members present.

Mr. C. H. Thompson discussed the distribution, pollination and dissemination of North American *Lemnaceæ*. In opposition to the current view of wind pollination, Mr. Thompson adopts Ludwig's theory of insect pollination as most consistent with *Lemna* structure. Local dissemination is by means of currents of water and wind and by aquatic insects. Fronds are carried to greater distances by adhering to water fowls.

Dr. Joseph Grindon presented a list of plants observed by him in Forest Park with their time of flowering.

Mr. J. B. S. Norton mentioned finding *Helianthus petiolaris*, *Sesbania macrocarpa*, *Salsola Kali* *Tragus* and other plants introduced about East St. Louis, and *Stenanthium robustum* in Forest Park, where it was collected by Dr. Engelmann many years ago, but west of the range usually given for that species. He also spoke briefly of Darwin's recent observations on stomata.

The meeting of July 28th was devoted to informal talks on botanical topics of interest to the members present.

J. B. S. NORTON,  
*Acting Secretary.*

##### ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES, OF PHILADELPHIA, JULY 26, 1898.

MR. WILFRED H. HARNED, alluding to the report that clay was eaten in certain places in the Southern States, read a letter from a correspondent intimating that the practice could not be met with there.

MR. BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN remarked that on the Island of Yesso he had been shown a white clay which was said to be eaten by the natives.

PROFESSOR HENRY A. PILSBRY exhibited a number of shells of the genus *Cerion*, illustrating the fact that each of the Bahama Islands has its own peculiar species. He had been told that in Cuba the habitats of the species of this genus are almost as well defined as are those of the islands. No one species is generally distributed over the entire island nor along any great extent of sea-board. Specimens of *Cerium incanum* from the Florida Keys were also exhibited. The speaker suggested that an examination of the Keys would probably reveal a similar definition of local forms.

A paper entitled 'A New Land Snail from Clarion Island,' by Henry A. Pilsbry, was presented for publication.

EDW. J. NOLAN,  
*Secretary.*

#### NEW BOOKS.

*L'Année Psychologique.* ALFRED BINET. Paris, Schleicher Frères. 1898. Quatrième Année. Pp. 849.

*Electricity and Magnetism.* FRANCIS E. NIPHER. St. Louis, J. L. Boland. 1898. 2d Edition. Pp. xi + 430.

*Special Report on the Beet-sugar Industry of the United States.* Washington, Government Printing Office. 1898. Pp. 239.

*The Birds of Indiana.* AMOS W. BUTLER. From the 22d Report of the Department of Geology and Natural Resources of Indiana. 1897. Pp. 516-1187.